

The Knowles House
Henderson County
Oquawka, Illinois

HABS Ill. 241

HABS
ILL,
36 OQUA,
2.

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. Ill.I.

Historic American Buildings Survey
Earl H. Reed, District Officer
435 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago

THE KNOWLES HOUSE
Oquawka, Hendereon County, Illinois

Owner: Mr. E.E. Camp.

Date of Erection: Between 1852-57

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: One and one-half.

Materials of Construction: Rubble stone foundation,
local red brick walls, wood sills and trim, wood porch
and shingle roof.

Other Existing Records: Henderson County Abstracts

Additional Data: Lot #7, Block #74, on which the
Knowles House stands was purchased by John B. Patterson
from Alfred Knowles in 1844 for a consideration of
\$250. Mr. Knowles became owner of the property again
in 1852, and in 1857 sold it to Henry Wilson for
\$1400. As the rest of the transfers are for about
the same price it is assumed by the present owner
that the building was erected between 1852 and 1857
by Alfred Knowles, who was the first County Clerk of
Henderson County.

Mr. Camp further states, "An old County history, written
by an old County Judge, who lived in the frame house
just south of me, in speaking of hotels: 'Today there
is but one hotel, The Smith House, opened in 1869, built
by Alfred Knowles for a residence at considerable ex-
pense.' History published in 1882." This perhaps
accounts for the fact that there were six bedrooms in
this small house.

By Margaret S. Gmso

Approved Edw. Wilson